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Message Text

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64
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /117 W
---------- 118187
O 292129Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 424

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 9767

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CO
SUBJECT: QUITA SUENO TREATY

ARA FOR KUBISCH

1. VAZQUEZ CARRIZOSA MAY RAISE QUITA SUENO WITH YOU. THERE FOLLOWS THE LATEST READING FROM HERE ON PROSPECTS FOR RATIFICATION. THE SENATE APPROVED THE TREATY EARLY THIS YEAR AND IT IS NOW IN THE CHAMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES.

2. THE RAIFICATION BILL WILL BE READ BY THE PONENTE (REPORTER) NEXT WEEK IN THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. IN THIS CASE, THERE ARE THREE PONENTES: TWO ARE MEMBERS OF ANAPO, OPPOSED TO THE BILL, AND A THIRD IS A CONSERVATIVE, SYMPATHETIC TO THE TREATY. (UNDER CONGRESSIONAL RULES THE CHAIRMAN MAY APPOINT AS MANY PONENTES AS HE WISHES AND THE COMMITTEE CAN CHOOSE ANY PONENCIA IT WISHES ON WHICH TO VOTE.) IF THE ADMINISTRATION STRATEGY WORKS AS PLANNED THE COMMITTEE WILL CHOOSE THE FAVORABLE PONENCIA, APPROVE IT AND MOVE IT ON TO THE FLOOR OF THE CHAMBER.

3. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF FACTORS WORKING AGAINST FINAL PASSAGE OF THE BILL THIS SESSION. THE CONGRESS CLOSES DEC 16 WHICH MEANS THERE ARE ONLY SIX MORE PLENARY SESSIONS. THE CONGRESSIONAL CALENDAR IS CLOGGED BECAUSE OF ABSENTEEISM,
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AS MANY CONGRESSMEN ARE REMAINING IN THEIR DISTRICTS IN ORDER

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TO ASSURE THEMSELVES A PLACE ON THE TICKET NEXT APRIL. IF THE PRESENT RATE OF ABSENTEEISM CONTINUES, IT IS DOUBTFUL ANY MAJOR LEGISLATION WILL BE PASSED THIS SESSION. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE COLOMBIAN CONGRESS TRADITIONALLY DOES MOST OF ITS WORK IN THE CLOSING DAYS OF THE SESSION AND WE MAY YET SEE A FLURRY OF ACTIVITY.

4. ON NOV 28 THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES, DAVID ALJURE RAMIREZ, TOLD THE CHARGE THERE IS NO CHANCE THE QUITA SUENO TREATY WILL BE APPROVED THIS SESSION. A SENATOR WHO WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN PUSHING THE MEASURE THROUGH THE SENATE, AND WHO HAS WORKED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION TO MOVE THE BILL THROUGH THE CHAMBER, ALSO TOLD THE CHARGE THE MEASURE IS DEAD UNTIL NEXT YEAR.

WHITE

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NNN

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Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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